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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1913.

A CHALLENGE—OF EFFICIENCY.

Mr. Hinsenberg would have won the approval of the public yesterday had he challenged the Council to a trial of efficiency rather than of voting strength. As it is, his remarks will only increase the friction between the board and the council, and will render more difficult the task of improving city government.

The board is fundamentally deserved a proceeding on the principle that it has won public favor, and is entitled to an increase of power. The people do not conceive this in the contrary, we fear, that a popular vote tomorrow would show a majority in favor of abolishing the board. Instead, therefore, of asking more power, the board should strive to demonstrate it is using well those powers already vested in it. It should labor not for greater patronage, but for greater efficiency.

The proposal to give the board control of the Fire, Police and Health Departments will not be seriously considered by the public. Neither, we think, will the voters approve the plan to empower the Council to transact all discretion of the city government to the board.

A prominent bishop is quoted as saying that the man who "takes himself too seriously, is inclined to be hypercritical, and to regard himself self-appointed inspector of the universe." At last, the complacent brother is revenged upon the author of that creed. "Nobody loves a fat man."

A North Carolina hotel keeper asks us what income tax he will have to pay. Well, miford, if you have in your cupboard a dozen eggs, a basket of potatoes, a sirloin steak and two ham steaks, you'll have to cough up \$16,000 or take Julian Hawthorne's apartment in the Atlanta penitentiary.

We note that ex-President Taft has been acting as referee, but he is built for centre.

ROOT.

For the second time, the Nobel peace prize has been conferred upon an American. He to whom honor is due is accorded in its award to Elihu Root, senior United States Senator from New York, whose work in the pacification of the Philippines and Cuba when Secretary of War, and in the handling of the American-Japanese dispute when Secretary of State, received signal recognition yesterday on the seventeenth anniversary of the death of Nobel. Commendation of his high political and international ideals, his prominence as a statesman and his unceasing endeavors for the promotion of world peace, was expressed at the same time by the committee of award.

The only other American whose efforts for peace have been crowned in like manner is Theodore Roosevelt, to whom the prize was voted in 1906, and the names of these two of our countrymen are now enrolled in the illustrious company of Bunyan, Passy, Disraeli, Gobat, Cramér, Von Suttner, Monet, Renault, Arnold, Balen, Baron d'Estournelle de Constant Beaufort, Ascer and Fried.

The conferment of this distinction upon Senator Root is another striking evidence of his sheer intellectual ability and his uncommon capacity for statesmanship. By common consent, he is the ablest member of the United States Senate, and the foremost constitutional lawyer in the country, a man whose judgment upon questions involving the national organic law, Democrats and Republicans alike seek. He was a great Secretary of War and a great Secretary of State. He is the most highly distinguished member of the regular Republican party. When he was active at the bar in New York, he had few peers as a corporation lawyer. Wherever he has served, he has acquitted himself in the most distinguished manner.

In politics, as well as in other spheres, the saddest words are, "He might have been." If Elihu Root had never been so prominently identified with the great corporate interests of the country, if he had not been counseled for the sugar trust, he might easily have become the nominee of his party for the presidency. Even with that inconsiderateness, he might have been a great political leader, if he were of progressive rather than conservative cast of mind. He has been one of the most uncompromising defenders of the old order in all that touches revenue and, although of late he has shown an unconcernedness toward the short ballot and the presidential preferential primary. Despite the things that hold him down, he promises to be the foremost figure in the consolidation of the Republican party. He is a great American regular, but has denied his place to which his ability, under favorable star, would have entitled him.

TURNING OVER A NEW LEAF.
Not in new but certainly in enlarged form the Congressional Record is appearing these days. The issue resolved yesterday contains fifty-one pages of annual debate exclusive of all excepts inserted in the proceedings and all undivided speeches. It represents just a single day's work in Congress.

We note that ex-President Taft has been acting as referee, but he is built for centre.

HELP THE COLLEGE.

In a magnificent grove at Westhampton a great college is nearing completion. Its Gothic halls will soon be occupied. Its campus will be crowded with students, and its name will be spreading through the South.

The new Richmond College is not exactly the property of a great and militant denomination. It belongs in part to the city whose name it bears, and its success will be our glory. To the college will flock hundreds of young men and women, who will live with us and will carry the good name of the university to the corners of the continent.

We have a large financial interest in the college. When its trustees accepted the offer of the General Education Board and agreed to raise \$350,000 if the board would give \$150,000, they appealed to the civic pride of Richmond. They asked the city to contribute \$100,000 to the college from which we will be the chief beneficiaries.

Congress.

Senate: Mr. Brown of Mississippi offered a resolution that the state of the country demands that laws should be passed requiring that every male citizen go into the military service, repealing the statute authorizing substitutes, empowering the President to issue proclamation commanding all citizens to leave the country within sixty days or take up arms, laying direct taxes and prohibiting trade in gold, silver, banknotes and U. S. Treasury notes during the war. The resolution further provides that these shall be war measures, for violations of which persons shall be amenable to military courts only.

The House passed the anti-substitute law.

From Gregg's Army.

It is not known whether Lieutenant-general Hardee will remain permanently in command of the enemy has retreated with one foot toward Chattanooga, having waste the country in its train. General Breckinridge has been relieved of command in this army. There is much indecision in the army among officers, although one correspondent has seen but one drunk private.

From Lee's Army.

A post-office has been established for the army. John L. Lubick, formerly in charge of Lubick's Battery and secretary of the last Virginia Convention is postmaster. Ten thousand letters are sent through the post-office every day, and many received, so that eight hours are kept busy from early morning until midnight.

Sundays there were services at the Episcopal church in charge. The Rev. Dr. Wilmer of Albemarle, preached a most able sermon. Among his auditors were Generals R. E. Lee, Hill, Fitz Lee and J. E. B. Stuart.

From the North.

The first session of the Thirty-eighth Congress commenced Monday. In the Senate the credentials of several newly elected Senators were presented. Mr. Davis made an earnest opposition to the admission of the Senators from West Virginia, contending that constitutionality was not such. State to West Virginia. By a vote of 26 to 2, the West Virginians defeated Wiley and Van Winkle were seated.

The House of Representatives has elected Schuyler Colfax Speaker.

The Virginia Legislature of Virginia failed to organize an Alexandria County for lack of quorum.

Crime in Richmond.

In the past year in the Hastings Court of Richmond, Judge William H. Lyons, disposed of 175 cases of felony and seven-eighths of the accused were convicted. Most of the criminals are from other States, and several are paroled.

From Charleston.

The evening schools in Charleston Wednesday and Thursday. Twenty shots were thrown. No serious damage inflicted. Fighting between the batteries continues.

From East Tennessee.

Advise that General Longstreet's forces are in line of battle at Rutledge. His rear is skirmishing with the enemy.

Jobs in the Penitentiary.

Colin Bass, superintendent of the penitentiary, advertises that there are several official vacancies in that institution to be filled by competent men.

THEY WOULD ALL COME.

There is no such thing as a Southern newspaper, according to the Times-Draft, as anxious to Richmond as anxious that he would have to travel to the South to buy business here. He has been allowed to settle with us. Our advertising naturally deserves no accommodation, however, and wanted to know if any firm in Richmond could utilize the World-the business capital.

This we respectfully refer to various contemporaries in less fortunate cities. We have suspected it for many years, but this is the first time we have ever had evidence that men may pay real value for the right to live in Richmond.

And yet while we do not like to parade such matters and while we desire to rebuke good people regardless of their accounts, there is a very good reason for this financial condition. If at were not for the fact that the country would want to have us, we would not come.

From what we hear as a numerous news source, it is reported that the men are heading farther to the mountains and elsewhere to find employment. This does not apply to Richmond. Men are staying put, but then who has not seen the reason? And the advertising and supply men in our offices, and with the rest.

In this we find a natural result of the situation. The American people outside of the South are apathetic to the political and financial condition of the country. The South is the only place where the people are interested in the political and financial condition of the country.

Thus the Southern papers are apathetic to the political and financial condition of the country. The South is the only place where the people are interested in the political and financial condition of the country.

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